

IN THE CLAIMS

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1 (Currently Amended). A device comprising:
~~an optics element to facilitate viewing;~~
an image sensor to capture frames;
a storage to store a sequence of frames of predetermined duration, said storage coupled to said sensor;
a display coupled to said storage to display the sequence of frames; and
a controller to automatically store successive sequences of frames of predetermined duration including an earlier and later sequence, said controller to store a later sequence of frames in said storage, automatically overwriting an earlier sequence of frames; and
an optics element to enable the user to selectively view a scene or said display through said optics element.

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2 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said controller stores a first sequence of frames and, at the end of the first sequence, loops back to the beginning of the first sequence and overwrites the first sequence of frames with a second sequence of frames.

3 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said storage has the capacity to store an integral number of sequences of frames of predetermined duration.

4 (Original). The device of claim 3 wherein said storage has a capacity to store substantially only one sequence of frames of predetermined duration.

5 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said device is a camera.

6 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said device is a telescope.

7 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said device is a microscope.

8 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said device is binoculars.

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9 (Currently Amended). The device of claim 1 wherein said optics element includes a beam splitter, said beam splitter arranged to pass light from said scene or to pass light from said display for viewing by the user and said image sensor.

10 (Original). The device of claim 9 including a shutter to control viewing access to said optics element.

11 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said device selectively enables the user to view said display or a scene through said optics element.

12 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said optics element is in light communication with said image sensor and the only way to view a scene through said optics element is by way of said display.

13 (Original). The device of claim 1 wherein said controller enables the user to select when to display a sequence of frames of predetermined duration.

14 (Currently Amended). A method comprising:
recording a sequence of frames of predetermined duration;
overwriting said recorded sequence of frames with an ensuing sequence of frames of substantially the same duration; and
in response to user selection, enabling the user to selectively view a recorded sequence of frames or an actual scene through the same viewing port.

15 (Original). The method of claim 14 including storing a first sequence of frames of predetermined duration and, at the end of said first sequence, looping back to the beginning of the first sequence and overwriting said first sequence with a second sequence of frames.

16 (Original). The method of claim 14 including storing a integral number of sequences of frames of predetermined duration.

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17 (Original). The method of claim 14 including enabling the user to selectively view a scene or a recorded sequence of frames of predetermined duration.

18 (Original). The method of claim 14 including displaying a real time image on a display and selectively enabling the user to replace the real time display with the display of a stored sequence of frames.

19 (Currently Amended). An article comprising a medium storing instructions that, if executed, enable a processor-based system to:

record a sequence of frames of predetermined duration;

overwrite said recorded sequence of frames with an ensuing sequence of frames of substantially the same duration; and

in response to user selection, enable the user to view a recorded sequence of frames or a real scene, through the same viewing port.

20 (Original). The article of claim 19 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to store a first sequence of frames of predetermined duration and, at the end of said first sequence, loop back to the beginning of the first sequence and overwrite said first sequence with a second sequence of frames.

21 (Original). The article of claim 19 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to store an integral number of sequences of frames of predetermined duration.

22 (Original). The article of claim 19 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to enable the user to selectively view a scene or a recorded sequence of frames of predetermined duration.

23 (Original). The article of claim 19 further storing instructions that enable the processor-based system to display a real time image on a display or selectively enable the user to replace the real time display with the display of a stored sequence of frames.

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24 (New). A device comprising:

an optics element to facilitate viewing, said optics element including a beam splitter;

an image sensor to capture frames;

a storage to store a sequence of frames of predetermined duration, said storage coupled to said sensor;

a display coupled to said storage to display the sequence of frames; and

a controller to automatically store successive sequences of frames of predetermined duration including an earlier and later sequence, said controller to store a later sequence of frames in said storage, automatically overriding an earlier sequence of frames and to enable the user to selectively view an actual scene or said display through said optics element.

25 (New). The device of claim 24 wherein said optics element includes a shutter to enable said user to view said scene or said display.
